

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A medical information management system, comprising:
 2. an information acquisition device;
 3. a computer coupled to the information acquisition device, the computer including logic for receiving information from the information acquisition device, and
 5. a memory element associated with the computer, where the memory element stores the information and associates the information with a study; where new information transferred to the computer is associated with the study, and the study is
 7. flagged to indicate that new information is available.
1. 2. The medical information management system of claim 1, wherein the information includes at least one of ultrasound image information, medical image information, patient measurements, calculations, findings, comments, waveforms, chart records, audio recordings, Doppler audio, Doppler flow sounds or heart sounds, Doppler audio, and a medical study report.
1. 3. The medical information management system of claim 2, further comprising a database, where the database includes a plurality of flags, and at least one of the flags is used to indicate to a user of the medical information management system that the new information has been associated with the study.

1 4. The medical information management system of claim 3, further
2 comprising a client application, the client application further comprising a user
3 interface configured to present to the user of the medical information management
4 system an indication that the new information has been associated with a study.

1 5. The medical information management system of claim 4, where the
2 client application informs the user of the arrival of new information while the user is
3 reviewing the study to which the new information corresponds.

1 6. The medical information management system of claim 4, where the
2 client application informs the user of the arrival of new information pertaining to a
3 study that the user is not reviewing.

1 7. A method for adding new information to a medical study, the method
2 comprising the steps of:
3 acquiring diagnostic information using an information acquisition device;
4 forwarding the information to a computer;
5 storing the information;
6 associating the information with a medical study;
7 transferring new information to the computer;
8 associating the new information with the study; and
9 indicating, in the study, that new information is available.

1 8. The method of claim 7, wherein the information includes at least one of
2 ultrasound image information, medical image information, patient measurements,
3 findings, calculations, comments, waveforms, chart records, audio recordings, Doppler
4 audio, Doppler flow sounds or heart sounds, Doppler audio, and a medical study
5 report.

1 9. The method of claim 8, further comprising the step of using a database
2 indicator to indicate to a user of the medical information management system that the
3 new information has been associated with the study.

1 10. The method of claim 9, further comprising the step of presenting to the
2 user of the medical information management system an indication that the new
3 information has been associated with a study.

1 11. The method of claim 10, further comprising the step of informing the
2 user of the arrival of new information while the user is reviewing the study to which
3 the new information corresponds.

1 12. The method of claim 10, further comprising the step of informing the
2 user of the arrival of new information pertaining to a study that the user is not
3 reviewing.

1 13. A computer readable medium having a program for adding new
2 information to a medical study, the program comprising logic for performing the steps
3 of:
4 acquiring diagnostic information using an information acquisition device;
5 forwarding the information to a computer;
6 storing the information;
7 associating the information with a medical study;
8 transferring new information to the computer;
9 associating the new information with the study; and
10 indicating, in the study, that new information is available.

1 14. The program of claim 13, wherein the information includes at least one
2 of ultrasound image information, medical image information, patient measurements,
3 findings, calculations, comments, waveforms, chart records, audio recordings, Doppler
4 audio, Doppler flow sounds or heart sounds, Doppler audio, and a medical study
5 report.

1 15. The program of claim 14, further comprising logic for using a database
2 indicator to indicate to a user of the medical information management system that the
3 new information has been associated with the study.

1 16. The program of claim 15, further comprising logic for presenting to the
2 user of the medical information management system an indication that the new
3 information has been associated with a study.

1 17. The program of claim 16, further comprising logic for informing the
2 user of the arrival of new information while the user is reviewing the study to which
3 the new information corresponds.

1 18. The program of claim 16, further comprising logic for informing the
2 user of the arrival of new information pertaining to a study that the user is not
3 reviewing.